

Chronology

- 1870 Born October 18 as Teitarō Suzuki in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, Japan, the youngest of five children.
- 1875 Age 5. Entered Honda-machi Primary School. Death of his father Ryōjun on November 16.
- 1883 Age 13. Entered Middle School attached to Ishikawa Semmon Gakkō.
- 1885 Age 15. Published with others the magazine *Meiji Yoteki*, and became its editor.
- 1887 Age 17. Advanced to Upper Middle School. Met Kitarō Nishida. Forced to leave school soon afterwards because of financial difficulties at home.
- 1889 Age 19. Travelled to Noto Peninsula to teach English at Iida Primary School.
- 1890 Age 20. Taught English at Mikawa Primary School in Ishikawa. Death of his mother Masu on April 8.
- 1891 Age 21. Entered Tokyo Semmon Gakkō (the Waseda University of today). Later this year, persuaded by Kitarō Nishida, entered Tokyo Imperial University as a special student. Met Yakichi Ataka. Introduced to Imagita Kōsen, Abbot and Zen master of Engaku-ji in Kamakura. Spare time is spent in this monastery as a novice.
- 1892 Age 22. Death of Imagita Kōsen. Zen studies continued under Shaku Sōyen, Kōsen Roshi's successor.
- 1893 Age 23. Translated into English the address delivered by Shaku Sōyen at the Parliament of Religion in Chicago World's Fair.
- 1895 Age 25. Paul Carus' *The Gospel of Buddha* (*Butsuda*

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- no fukuin*) translated and published.
- 1896 Age 26. "Essay on Emerson" and *Shin shakyo-ron* published.
- 1897 Age 27. Joined Paul Carus in La Salle, Illinois, to assist in translating Chinese texts into English. Stayed to work on the editorial staff of the Open Court Publishing Company.
- 1900 Age 30. *Açvaghosha's Discourse on the Awakening of Faith in the Mahayana* published.
- 1905 Age 35. Served as interpreter for Shaku Sōyen during his tour of the United States. Talks given by Shaku Sōyen were later compiled to form *The Sermons of a Buddhist Abbot*.
- 1906 Age 36. *T'ai-Shang Kan-Ying P'ien. Yin Chin Wen. Amidabutsu*.
- 1907 Age 37. Series of articles published in the *Monist* on ancient Chinese history. In Maine, gave his first lectures on Buddhism which were compiled to form his first book in English, *Outlines of Mahayana Buddhism*, published in London.
- 1908 Age 38. Departed from La Salle for New York, and soon after, for Europe. Much time spent at the Bibliothèque Nationale copying, photographing, and researching on The Tun-huang MSS., especially *The Gandavyuha*. Journeyed through Germany and back to London where he was invited by the Swedenborg Society to translate *Heaven and Hell* into Japanese. December and January, 1909, spent intensively in this task.
- 1909 Age 39. Arrived back in Japan in April. Became lecturer of English at Gakushū-in (Peers' School) in August, and at Tokyo Imperial University in October.
- 1910 Age 40. Appointed Professor at Gakushū-in. Remained in this capacity until 1921. Began serving as editor of the magazine *Zendō*. *Tengai to jigoku* published.

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- Translated into English *Principal Teachings of the True Sect of the Pure Land* (*Shinshū kyōgi*) and other writings from the Jōdo Shinshū.
- 1911 Age 41. First thesis on the Pure Land Sect, *Jiriki to tariki* (Self-power and other-power) published. Marriage to Miss Beatrice Erskine Lane on December 12 in Yokohama.
- 1912 Age 42. To England, on second invitation from the Swedenborg Society to translate *The Divine Love and the Divine Wisdom, The New Jerusalem, The Divine Providence* into Japanese. Returned to Japan in two months.
- 1913 Age 43. *Swedenborugu. Zengaku taiyō.*
- 1914 Age 44. Retired as lecturer of Tokyo Imperial University. Series of articles on Zen Buddhism published in the magazine *The New East* edited by Robertson Scott. *Zen no dai-ichi gi. A Brief History of Early Chinese Philosophy.*
- 1915 Age 45. *Kōjō no tettsui.*
- 1916 Age 46. Appointed Dormitory Master of Gakushū-in. Led a group of Gakushū-in students on a tour of China. Alan Masaru adopted. *Zen no kenkyū. Zen no tachiba kara.*
- 1919 Age 49. Death of Shaku Sōyen no November 1.
- 1921 Age 51. Began the publication of *The Eastern Buddhist* with Mrs. Suzuki as co-editor. In May, moved to Kyoto to take the chair of Professor of Buddhist Philosophy at Otani University.
- 1925 Age 55. *Hyaku-shū sen-setsu.*
- 1927 Age 57. *Essays in Zen Buddhism, First Series. Zuihitsu: Zen.*
- 1929 Age 59. With Mrs. Suzuki founded Jihi-en, animal shelter, in Kita-Kamakura.
- 1930 Age 60. *Studies in the Lankavatara Sutra. Zen to wa nanzoya.*

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- 1932 Age 62. *The Lankavatara Sutra*. Reproduction of *Jinne-roku*.
- 1933 Age 63. D. Litt. (Bungaku Hakushi) degree received from Otani University. *Essays, Second Series. Index Verborum to the Lankavatara Sutra*.
- 1934 Age 64. May and June, travelled in Korea, Manchuria, and China. *Essays, Third Series. The Training of the Zen Buddhist Monk. An Introduction to Zen Buddhism. The Gandavyuha Sutra. Shina bukkyō inshō ki. Rokuso dangyō* (two versions) and *Jinne-roku* MSS. Enlarged edition of *Index Verborum*.
- 1935 Age 65. *Manual of Zen Buddhism. Godō-zen. Zen to nihonjin no kishitsu*. Reproduction of Bodhidharma's *Shōshitsu Issho*.
- 1936 Age 66. In April, attended The World Congress of Faiths in London headed by Sir Francis Younghusband. Under the auspices of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, lectured on Zen Buddhism and Japanese culture at Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, and London universities. During the fall months, travelled through the United States lecturing on the same subject at several central and eastern universities. *Buddhist Philosophy and Its Effects on the Life and Thought of the Japanese People*. A critical dissertation of Bodhidharma's *Shōshitsu Issho*.
- 1937 Age 67. Returned to Japan on January 7. *Sukoshi shūkyō o toku*.
- 1938 Age 68. Mrs. Suzuki taken seriously ill in the spring. *Zen Buddhism and Its Influence on Japanese Culture. Zen no shomondai*.
- 1939 Age 69. Death of Mrs. Suzuki on July 16. *Mushin to yūkoto*.
- 1940 Age 70. Ichio Suzuki adopted. *Zendo no kyōiku. Bankei no fushō zen. Rokuso dangyō* (Daijō-ji edition).
- 1941 Age 71. *Zen e no michi. Zen mondo to satori. Bukkyō*

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- no kakushin. Bankei zenji goroku. Ichi shinjitsu no sekai. Zen no mikata to okonai kata.*
- 1942 Age 72. *Tōyō-teki ichi. Jōdo-kei shisō-ron. Bankei zen no kenkyū. Bukkwa hekigan* critically edited.
- 1943 Age 73. *Bunka to shūkyō. Ichi zensha no shisaku. Shūkyō keiken no jijitsu. Zen shisō-shi kenkyū, I. Zen no Shisō. Bankei zenji seppō. Zen hyaku-dai. Bassui zenji hōgo.*
- 1944 Age 74. *Nihon-teki reisei. Daitō hyaku-nijussoku. Gettan oshō hōgo.*
- 1945 Age 75. Death of Kitarō Nishida on June 7. Edited *Zekkwan ron.*
- 1946 Age 76. Founded Matsugaoka Bunko (Pine-Hill Library), a depository of ancient and modern works on Zen Buddhism, as well as the Suzuki's personal collection of books. With R. H. Blyth as co-editor, began the publication of the magazine *The Cultural East. Imagita Kosen. Reisei-teki nihon no kensetsu. Nihon-teki reisei-teki jikaku.*
- 1947 Age 77. Lectured on Buddhism to His Majesty the Emperor. *Jishu-teki ni kangaeru. Shimpi shugi to zen. Shūkyō to seikatsu. Bukkyō no tai-i.*
- 1948 Age 78. *Myōkonin. Tōyō to seiyo. Shūkyō to kindai-jin. Zen issatsu. Shūkyō to bunka. Seinen ni atau.*
- 1949 Age 79. Elected member of Japan Academy (January). Attended the Second East-West Philosophers' Conference in Honolulu (June). Stayed on to lecture on Zen Buddhism at University of Hawaii (September to February, 1950). Decorated *in absentia* with the Cultural Medal by the Emperor of Japan in November. Presented with the Festschrift *Zen no ronkō*, commemorating his seventyseventh birthday. *The Zen Doctrine of No-Mind. A Miscellany on the Shin Teaching of Buddhism. Living by Zen. Bukkyō to kirisutokyō. Rinzai no kihon shisō.*

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- 1950 Age 80. Lectured on Japanese culture and Buddhism at Claremont College, February to June. Moved to New York in September to lecture at Princeton, Columbia, Harvard, Chicago, Yale, Cornell, Northwestern, Wesleyan on the subject of "Oriental Culture and Thought" sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation.
- 1951 Age 81. Lectured at Columbia University on Kegon philosophy from February to June. Spent the summer in Japan. From September to February, 1952, lectured once more at Claremont. *Zen shisō-shi kenkyū, II*.
- 1952 Age 82. At Columbia University as visiting professor lecturing on Zen Buddhist philosophy in the Department of Religion. Summer months spent in Japan accompanied by Karen Horney, Cornelius Crane, Richard DeMartino, and others. *Shūkyō nyūmon. Shūkyō no konpon giten ni tsuite. Shūkyō ronshū*.
- 1953 Age 83. Continued lecturing at Columbia. June to August spent attending the Eranos Conference in Switzerland, and touring and lecturing in Paris, London, Zürich, München, Rome, Brussels, and other places in Europe. Met Carl Jung, Martin Heidegger and Karl Jaspers.
- 1954 Age 84. Continued lecturing at Columbia. The summer months at Eranos Conference, and lecturing and touring in London, Paris, Cologne, Marburg, Stuttgart, München, Vienna, Rome, Assisi. Met Arnold Toynbee, Gabriel Marcel, Arthur Waley, Friedrich Heiler, and others. In September, departed for Japan for a stay of four months.
- 1955 Age 85. Received the Asahi Cultural Award (January). Left Japan for New York again to lecture at Columbia University on "Philosophy and Religion of Zen Buddhism" in the Department of Philosophy. Ap-

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- pointed Associate Professor. *Studies in Zen*.
- 1956 Age 86. Continued lecturing at Columbia. Summer spent in Mexico City lecturing at Mexico City College and to private groups.
- 1957 Age 87. Retired from Columbia in June. Summer months with Erich Fromm in Cuernavaca, Mexico, lecturing at the conference on Zen and psychoanalysis. Talks given at the University of Mexico. In September, attended Paul Carus Memorial Symposium, Peru, Illinois. Moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, for the following seven months to join Shin'ichi Hisamatsu. Lectures given at Harvard, M. I. T., Wellesley, Brandeis, Radcliffe and Amherst. *Mysticism: Christian and Buddhist. Nihon Bukkyō*.
- 1958 Age 88. Attended the Belgian World's Fair in May to represent the Far East in giving a talk on the subject of "Spirituality." Toured Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, Avila, Sevilla, Madrid. Lectured in Brussels, and in London at the London Buddhist Society. Returned to Japan by late November. *Zen and Japanese Buddhism. Shūkyō to gendai seikatsu*.
- 1959 Age 89. Participated in the Third East-West Philosophers' Conference in June. Conferred Honorary Doctor of Law degree by University of Hawaii. *Zen and Japanese Culture*.
- 1960 Age 90. Presented with the Festschrift *Buddhism and Culture* in celebration of his ninetieth birthday. In December, took a four weeks' tour of India as a State guest. *Zen Buddhism and Psychoanalysis*.
- 1961 Age 91. Finished a draft translation of Shinran Shōnin's *Kyōgyōshinshō*. Wrote the commentaries for the Catalogue of Sengai drawings in preparation for European exhibitions.
- 1963 Age 93. *Toyō-teki na mikata*.
- 1964 Age 94. Awarded The Rabindranath Tagore Birth-

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- Centenary Medal from the Asiatic Society, India.
In July, spent two weeks in New York, meeting Fr. Thomas Merton and other friends, and attended the Fourth East-West Philosophers' Conference in Honolulu. *Shinran no sekai. Jōshū zenji goroku.*
- 1965 Age 95. Reassumed editorship of the New Series of *The Eastern Buddhist. Tōyō no kokoro.*
- 1966 Age 95 and 9 months. Died at St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo, July 12 at 5.05 a. m. The Senior Grade of the Third Court rank (正三位) was granted him posthumously. *Daisetz tsurezure gusa. Ningen ikani iku bekika*, and *Myōkonin Asahara Saichishū* were posthumously published.